



Scripture Nugget – The Power from the Passion of Christ available to us

For through the law I died to the law, that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ; yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God Who has loved me and given Himself up for me (Galatians 2:19-20).

The supernatural strength to fulfill God’s will in adverse circumstances. When Jesus said to His disciples that His food is to do the will of God (cf. John 4:34), it was no exaggeration. In the Garden of Gethsemane before His arrest, we see how Jesus used His every remaining ounce of strength to overcome His human fear of the coming crucifixion, His deep sorrow over souls lost forever, His great aversion to sins, His crushing fear of His Father’s wrath in order to surrender to the will of God the Father. Jesus prayed fervently and in agony not once but three times to the Heavenly Father for help to do His will. *He was in such agony and He prayed so fervently that His sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground (Luke 22:44).* Thus, Jesus shows us that there is nothing more important than the fulfillment of God’s will. Through His Passion, He gained for us all the graces and strength to fulfill God’s will even if it means going against popular human opinion and our own inclination.

Heroic courage to be reduced to nothing in the eyes of the world for sake of righteousness. It is hard to imagine how God our Heavenly Father allowed Jesus, the highest authority in the whole universe and before Whom in heaven myriads of angels prostrate themselves, to be submitted to the judgement and interrogation by sinful creatures, mocked by crowning with thorns, spat on the face, scourged in the body and finally publicly crucified like a common criminal. Lowered in the eyes of the world to a status lower than that of a vilest criminal when the crowds demanded that Barabbas, a murderer be released instead of Him, Jesus teaches us that human esteem and opinion are just what they are, but that our concern should focus on our allegiance to God and all that He stands for.

Absolute trust to surrender all to God. All testing by God is a test of our trust in Him. It is through testing and trials that we can increase our trust in God. Trust is the beautiful fruit of love and faith. Those who put their trust in God glorify God, and gain inner peace which the world cannot give. *With firm purpose You maintain peace; in peace, because of our trust in You (Isaiah 26:3).* Through His patient endurance of His suffering, humiliation and death Jesus demonstrates His complete, unquestioning, absolute loving trust of God the Father. Though in great physical pain and public humiliation, Jesus died peacefully, crying out in a loud voice, “Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit” (cf. Luke 23:46).

Conversation with Jesus: Precious Lord, through Your time on earth, You show me how I should live my life. By Your patient endurance of all the sufferings in Your Passion, You earned for me all the graces, light and strength I need to endure any hardships that stand in the way of righteousness. You teach me by Your own example how to overcome all obstacles, to put God first in my life and to surrender to Him everything even my very life so that I will have true, lasting joy. You were obedient to God’s will unto death and God the Father exalted You above all names (cf. Philippians 2:8-9). Jesus, You are my inspiration, my strength, my joy, my love and the highest purpose of my life. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pray for me. Thank You, Jesus. Praise You, Jesus.